

REPORT

NATIVE PAPERS

ON

FOR THE
Week ending the 12th April 1890.

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ASSAM PAPERS.

URIYA PAPERS.

The Orissa Canal *ib.*

Nil.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
1	"Ahammadi" ...	Tangail, Mymensingh	450	
2	"Ave Maria" ...	Calcutta	.....
3	"Divakar" ...	Ditto	.....
4	"Gaura Duta" ...	Maldah	.....
5	"Kasipore Nibasi" ...	Kasipore, Burrisal	30	
6	"Purva Bangabasi" ...	Noakholly	.....
7	"Purva Darpan" ...	Chittagong	700	
8	"Uttara Banga Hitaishi" ...	Mahiganj, Rungpore...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
9	"Arya Darpan" ...	Calcutta	102	
10	"Bangabasi" ...	Ditto	20,000	5th April 1890.
11	"Bengala Exchange Gazette" ...	Calcutta	.....
12	"Burdwan Sanjibani" ...	Burdwan	302	1st ditto.
13	"Chandra Vilash" ...	Berhampore	250	
14	"Charuvarta" ...	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	31st March 1890.
15	"Chattal Gazette" ...	Chittagong	800	
16	"Dacca Prakash" ...	Dacca	1,200	7th April 1890.
17	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly	885	4th ditto.
18	"Faridpur Hitaishini" ...	Faridpur	.....
19	"Garib" ...	Dacca	3,000	
20	"Grambasi" ...	Uluberia	800	5th ditto.
21	"Gaurab" ...	Ditto	.....
22	"Guru Charana" ...	Calcutta	.....
23	"Hindu Ranjika" ...	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	300	
24	"Jagatbasi" ...	Calcutta	750	
25	"Murshidabad Patrika" ...	Berhampore	508	
26	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi" ...	Ditto	350	
27	"Navavibhakar Sadharani" ...	Calcutta	600	7th ditto.
28	"Pratikar" ...	Berhampore	600	4th ditto.
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakash" ...	Kakinia, Rungpore	205	
30	"Sahachar" ...	Calcutta	500	2nd ditto.
31	"Samaya" ...	Ditto	3,806	
32	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto	4,000	5th ditto.
33	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong	800	
34	"Sakti" ...	Dacca	.....	1st ditto.
35	"Santi" ...	Calcutta	3,722	
36	"Sarawat Patra" ...	Dacca	300	
37	"Som Prakash" ...	Calcutta	1,000	7th ditto.
38	"Srimanta Saudagar" ...	Ditto	.....
39	"Sudhakar" ...	Ditto	2,580	
40	"Sulabha Samachar o Kusadaha" ...	Ditto	800	4th ditto.
41	"Sulabh Samvad" ...	Ditto	.....	5th ditto.
42	"Surabhi o Patika" ...	Chandernagore	700	4th ditto.

No.	Names of newspapers.		Place of publication.		Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	
	<i>Daily.</i>						
43	"Dainik o Samáchár Chandriká"	...	Calcutta	...	1,500	3rd and 6th to 10th April 1890.	
44	"Samvád Prabhákar"	...	Ditto	...	800	7th to 10th April 1890.	
45	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya"	...	Ditto	...	300	4th and 7th to 10th April 1890.	
46	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká"	...	Ditto	...	500		
	ENGLISH AND BENGALI.						
	<i>Weekly.</i>						
47	"Dacca Gazette"	...	Dacca	...	.....	7th April 1890.	
	HINDI.						
	<i>Monthly.</i>						
48	"Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Sámachár Patrika."	...	Darjeeling	...	20		
49	"Kshatriya Pratiká"	...	Patna	...	200		
	<i>Weekly.</i>						
50	"Aryávarta"	...	Calcutta	...	1,500	5th ditto.	
51	"Behar Bandhu"	...	Bankipore	...	.....	3rd ditto.	
52	"Bhárat Mitra"	...	Calcutta	...	1,653		
53	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	...	Ditto	...	500		
54	"Uchit Baktá"	...	Ditto	...	4,500		
55	"Hindi Samáchár"	...	Bhagulpore	...	1,000		
	PERSIAN.						
	<i>Weekly.</i>						
56	"Jám-Jahán-numá"	...	Calcutta	...	250	28th March 1890.	
	URDU.						
	<i>Weekly.</i>						
57	"Aftal Alum Arrah"	...	Arrah	...	300		
58	"Akhbar Tusdiq-i-Hind"	...	Calcutta	...	.....
59	"Anis."	...	Patna	...	.....
60	"Gauhur"	...	Calcutta	...	196		
61	"Sharaf-ul-Akbar"	...	Behar	...	150		
62	"Al Punch"	...	Bankipore	...	.....	24th ditto.	
63	"Urdu Guide Darussaltanat"	...	Calcutta	...	340		
64	"Raisul-Akhbari-Moorshidabad"	...	Murshidabad	...	.....
	URIA.						
	<i>Monthly.</i>						
65	"Asha"	...	Cuttack	...	.....
66	"Taraka and Subhavártá"	...	Ditto	...	.....
67	"Pradíp"	...	Ditto	...	.....
68	"Samyabadi"	...	Ditto	...	.....
	<i>Weekly.</i>						
69	"Dipaka"	...	Cuttack	...	.....	22nd ditto.	
70	"Utkal Dípiká"	...	Ditto	...	444	22nd ditto.	
71	"Samvad Váhika"	...	Balasore	...	205	20th ditto.	
72	"Urya and Navasamvád"	...	Ditto	...	600	19th ditto.	
	PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.						
	BENGALI.						
	<i>Fortnightly.</i>						
73	"Silchar"	...	Silchar	...	500	24th ditto.	
	<i>Weekly.</i>						
74	"Paridarshak"	...	Sylhet	...	450		

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Dacca Prakash*, of the 6th April, says that having regard to the fact that writer-constables have to perform a variety of duties and a good deal of responsible work, requiring constant presence in the thana, their present pay of Rs. 5 or Rs. 6 per month seems to be very inadequate. Their pay should be increased to Rs. 20, and men with good educational qualifications should alone be appointed writer-constables.

DACCA PRAKASH
Apl. 6th, 1890.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

The administration of criminal justice in this country.

2. The *Sahachar*, of the 2nd April, says that the personal liberty of the people of this country is very insufficiently protected by the law, and refers by way of illustration to the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code empowering Magistrates to order the retrial of accused persons upon fresh evidence. When a complainant succeeds in making out an apparently good case, the Magistrate frames charges against the accused, and the accused is then heard in his defence. And if the defence is satisfactory he is acquitted and all his troubles come to an end with his acquittal. But when the complainant's case is so weak that the Magistrate dismisses it even without summoning the accused, the latter is liable to be placed on his trial on the turning up of any fresh evidence against him. A case of this nature recently occurred in the district of Rungpore. In a case a Deputy Magistrate wholly disbelieved the complainant's statement and let off the accused. Thereupon the former applied to the Magistrate, Mr. Skrine, under section 437 of the Criminal Procedure Code, and the case was sent to the Deputy Magistrate for retrial on the basis of some new evidence. The Deputy Magistrate again dismissed the case. And the Magistrate upon being again applied to to order another retrial of the accused, ordered the Deputy Magistrate to commit the accused to the Sessions. At the Sessions the assessors pronounced the accused not guilty, but the Judge sentenced him to a year's imprisonment. The accused appealed to the High Court, which set aside the sentence of the Judge. Now, consider the amount of trouble, worry, and insult to which the man was subjected before the High Court came to his rescue. And who knows how many really innocent persons are now in jail simply because they wanted means to carry their cases before the High Court? This Rungpore case fully illustrates the dangerous character of the criminal law of the country, and points to the necessity of organisations for watching its administration. Associations should be established all over the country for the purpose of keeping a strict eye upon the police, the magistracy, and the administration of criminal justice generally, and pleaders and muktears should have committees of their own for the same purpose in every sub-division. It will be the duty of these Associations to discover and put down by all legal means all abuses connected with the administration of criminal justice. They should also collect in book form an account of such abuses and circulate the same among the members of Parliament and the editors of continental newspapers.

SAHACHAR,
Apl. 2nd, 1890.

Mr. Luson, Joint-Magistrate of Magura and Jhenidah, and a zemindar of Narail.

3. The *Sanjivani*, of the 5th April, publishes the following letter:—

SANJIVANI,
Apl. 5th, 1890.

Dated Magura, the 18th March 1890.

From—HEWLING LUSON, Esq., C.S., Joint-Magistrate, Magura,
To—BABU BHUPENDRA KUMAR RAY, NARAIL.

SIR,—I am directed to inform you as follows:—

2. It is reported that you are mixing yourself up in the quarrel which has been progressing for some time between the Nohatta Indigo

Concern and its tenants and ryots. It is said that your procedure is to take leases from these tenants and ryots, and then in collusion sublease the lands back again. It is believed that this procedure of yours is likely to lead to riot of the worst type, like the 25 riots which have recently occurred in the Narail sub-division in consequence of certain members of your family getting similar fictitious rights in the holdings of the tenants of Babu Rajani Kanta Ghose. These 25 riots have attracted the attention and the extreme displeasure of Government.

3. Under the Bengal Tenancy Act it is illegal for ryots to transfer their holdings by gift or sale; and as regards such transactions with *jotedars* and tenants, the District Magistrate is of opinion that as they are based on no profit or consideration, and are made apparently only with the intention of creating a title which may hereafter be used as a cloak for dispossessing the actual landlord by persistent trespass, they too are illegal.

4. I am further directed to call your attention to sections 154, 155, and 156 of the Indian Penal Code, which provide heavy penalties upon zemindars and their agents in such cases. If any riot occurs in connection with these fictitious transactions, which you are reported to have made, there will be the strongest presumption that it was committed for your benefit, and that you were aware that it was likely to be committed.

5. If any such riot therefore does occur, I warn you that I shall at once take action under the sections above quoted against yourself and your servants, and as the fine I can impose is limited, I should, if a *prima facie* case was made out, have to commit you to the Court of Sessions for trial.

I am your obedient servant,

HEWLING LUSON,

Joint-Magistrate.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Apl. 7th, 1890.

4. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 7th April, has heard complaints in connection with the collection of the road cess in the district of Burdwan.

The holders of lakheraj lands have received post-card notices requiring them to pay the road cess within a prescribed period, and threatening them in default with the sale of their properties. Even those who pay their road cess at the zemindar's cutcherry, and those from whom not more than one year's road cess is due, had, on the receipt of these post-cards, to go to the Burdwan Collectorate some 37 or 38 miles distant from their villages. And those who would have sent their road cess by money-order had to incur in consequence of the issue of the post-cards the trouble and the expense of a long journey. As the road cess cannot be deposited without employing muktears for that purpose, ignorant people have been consequently put to great trouble. And those from whom the legal demand has been twice recovered have had to incur much trouble and expense in getting the necessary refunds. The Collector ought to look to the matter. Either those from whom the road cess is twice taken should get refunds without having to incur expenses for that purpose, or care should be taken that the same demand is not twice recovered and no unnecessary notices demanding the road cess are issued.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Apl. 10th, 1890.

5. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 10th April, refers to Mr. Lusson's letter to Baboo Bhupendra Kumar Ray, zemindar of Narail, a copy of which has been published in the *Sanjivani* newspaper (see paragraph 4), and makes the following remarks:—

The writer cannot say whether or not Bhupendra Baboo has done any thing wrong. But supposing he has done something wrong, there are the

courts where he can be punished for it. And the fact that, instead of summoning him to his court, Mr. Lusson has preferred to write a threatening letter to him shows that Bhupendra Baboo's offence (if any) is not of a very serious nature. The letter also makes one thing very clear, namely, that Mr. Lusson has taken up the cause of the planters against the oppressed ryots, and is trying to strike terror into the hearts of the friends and supporters of the latter by using threatening language towards them. Mr. Lusson says in his letter that the occurrence of 25 riots has displeased Government, and he apparently wishes it to be understood that it is Baboo Bhupendra Kumar himself who has incurred the displeasure of Government or of Sir Steuart Bayley. The writer, however, cannot believe that His Honour is really angry with Bhupendra Baboo. Mr. Lusson is using threatening language to all who are taking up the cause of the ryots, and there could be no easier means of making the strong planters still more strong and the weak ryots still more weak. The planters and their men are therefore showing increased vigour, whilst the ryots seem to be reduced to a state of despair. But, however weak the ryots may be, extreme despair may goad them even to unlawful courses, and what happened in the time of Sir Peter Grant may again happen in the time of Sir Steuart Bayley. Government should therefore transfer Mr. Lusson from Jhenidah without delay and appoint an able officer in his place.

(d)—Education.

6. Referring to the proposal of the Managing Committee of the Bethune College to increase the boarding charges of that institution, the *Sulabh Samá-chár-o-Kushdaha*, of the 4th April, says that the middle class men of Bengal can ill-afford to pay even the present boarding fee of Rs. 10 per month. If, then, the fee is raised to Rs. 15 per month, it will be simply impossible for all but wealthy people to send their daughters for education to that institution. It is, moreover, a matter for wonder that an increase of the boarding fee has been found necessary during the incumbency of a native head mistress when no such increase was found necessary in the time of her European predecessor. It was also expected that under a native head mistress the mode of living of the boarders would become thoroughly native. But the old English style of living is unfortunately still maintained. The *Sanjivani* has rightly said that it is idle to expect that the present head mistress should know anything about house-keeping in the native style, which, if introduced, would greatly reduce the expenses of boarding. The boarding expenses of a wealthy native family cannot exceed Rs. 10 per head. And it is a fair supposition that the girls who come to the Bethune College come there for education and not to enjoy luxuries.

Then as for keeping the institution closed on Saturdays in addition to Sundays, the Managing Committee would, by carrying out this proposal, show undue partiality to one section of the community in disregard of the interests of all the other sections. The institution is intended for girls of all castes and creeds, and if it be closed on certain days for the convenience of the Christian teachers and pupils, why should it not be closed on other days for the convenience of the Hindu and other non-Christian girls? Besides, by limiting the number of working days of the school, the Committee would do great injury and injustice to the Hindu girls, who cannot remain at school to an advanced age. And lastly the question may be asked, how the former Christian teachers and pupils could make time for giving clothes to the wash-man without having the school specially closed for that business.

7. The *Surabhi-o-Patáká*, of the 4th April, says that now that physical science has been made a compulsory subject for the F. A. Examination, the students of

SULABH SAMACHAR-O-
KUSHDAHA,
Apl. 4th, 1890.

SURABHI-O-PATAKA,
Apl. 4th, 1890.

Science in the F. A. Examination.

mofussil colleges, where there are no laboratories, will be compelled to have recourse to cram for the purpose of mastering this subject. The writer is opposed to this system of teaching science by cram. Are the University authorities ignorant of the condition of the mofussil colleges?

SURABHI-O-PATAKA,
Apl. 4th, 1890.

Appointment of examiners by the
Calcutta University.

8. The same paper refers to the oozing out of the questions set at the last University Examinations, and says that the proposed exclusion of professors from examinerships is not likely to be followed by desirable results. The examiners at the B. L. Examination are not professors of colleges and yet the relatives of those examiners are from time to time unduly favoured by them. The number of examiners in the Entrance and F. A. Examinations is very large, and it cannot be expected that the scandals that are now heard in connection with those examinations will cease with the exclusion of the professors of colleges from the examinerships. The best course for the authorities to adopt in this matter is to institute a strict enquiry directly an examiner is charged with disclosing questions, and to punish him adequately if he is found guilty, taking care to inflict the punishment secretly and without the knowledge of the examinees.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Apl. 6th, 1890.

9. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 6th April, says that like the Joint Baboo Dina Nath Sen, Inspector of Schools, Orissa, and the Deputy Inspector of Cuttack under him, Baboo Dina Nath Sen has been charged with having made some books written by himself text-books in the schools within his circle. And will the enquiry about Baboo Dinanath Sen be conducted in the same manner as the enquiry about the two Orissa officers threatens to be? It will certainly be improper for the Director of Public Instruction to connive in this way at charges made against public officers. A special tax upon school-boys for the benefit of the Inspector of Schools and their friends and flatterers would be a much better thing to have than making them read bad books.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Apl. 9th, 1890.

10. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 9th April, asks why an enquiry is being made into the truth or falsity of the scandals about only the Sanskrit questions set at the last F. A. Examination, and why the enquiry does not embrace also the English questions set at that examination. The public should be also enlightened on the following points:—

- (1). Whether the enquiry is being made with perfect impartiality.
- (2). Whether the students who have been brought down from the mofussil to give evidence before the enquiry committee, had to interview any body before giving their evidence.
- (3). The character of the informant of the *Sanjivani*, and whether he is guided by anybody.
- (4). Whether any other person is implicated in the matter, and if so, what opportunities had he of divulging the questions?
- (5). Whether any big official is trying to influence the committee.

The public will not be satisfied until they have satisfactory information on these points.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA.

11. The same paper deprecates the making of Physical Science as a compulsory subject in the F. A. Examination. With three compulsory subjects already imposed on the examinees, namely, the two languages and mathematics, it would be too much for them to have a fourth placed upon their shoulders. There are no facilities or arrangements for teaching Physics in private colleges, especially in private colleges in the mofussil. Again, Physical Science is not a compulsory subject either at the B. A. or at the M. A. Examination. Why then bother boys with that subject for only two years in the middle of their college career?

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

12. The *Som Prakásh*, of the 7th April, says that in view of the present high rate of mortality prevailing in Calcutta, the municipal authorities should pay

SOM PRAKASH,
Apl. 7th, 1890.

The sanitation of Calcutta.

particular attention to the removal of sweepings from the roads and to the flushing of the drains. The streets in the native quarter of the town are at present not properly swept and the sweepings therefrom are not properly removed. The carts in which these sweepings are carried being overloaded, often discharge portions of their contents on the streets, and there the sweepings lie poisoning the atmosphere. The contents of the drains also are often allowed to remain in heaps on the streets, and days often pass away before they are removed therefrom.

The Santipore Municipality.

13. A correspondent of the same paper has the following on the Santipore Municipality:—

SOM PRAKASH.

1. Though the annual income of the municipality is nearly Rs. 30,000, the roads within its limits are in an extremely miserable condition. These roads are full of sweepings and broken pottery.
2. The municipality has five wards, for which there are 20 coolies. These coolies have five duffadars who cost the municipality nearly Rs. 40 a month. What is the good of keeping so many duffadars? The work which they do can be done by an assistant overseer on Rs. 20 a month.
3. The arrangements for lighting the town are very defective, and yet the rate-payers have to pay from twelve to thirteen hundred rupees every year as lighting-rate.
4. The Commissioners behave very badly with the rate-payers for their supposed offence of causing obstructions on the municipal roads. They are particularly hard upon the poor, and they quail before the rich and the influential.
5. There is no knowing whether the municipal dispensary is properly managed. The Dispensary Committee has not met even once during the last two years.
6. The schools and madrasas within the municipality are not properly inspected by the municipal officers.
7. The Vice-Chairman receives Rs. 120 annually as allowance for inspecting the town, but he never inspects the roads personally. The Deputy Magistrate of Ranaghat, who is the new Chairman of the municipality, should institute an enquiry into these points.

(f)—*Questions affecting the land.*

14. A correspondent of the *Som Prakásh*, of the 7th April, says that the reclamation of the *beel* called the *Beelballi* near Sanrapul in the 24-Pergunnahs district has resulted in great disadvantage to the non-agricultural population living near it—

SOM PRAKASH,
Apl. 7th, 1890.

1. Before its reclamation, the *beel* abounded in fish and the fishermen of the place consequently made an easy livelihood. The jungle near the *beel* also furnished abundant food for cattle, and hence milk and ghee sold very cheap. But all this has been changed since the reclamation.
2. Before the reclamation, the lands around the *beel* yielded *Chamta* grass in abundance. That grass was used as fuel for

- boiling date-juice, and so the people prepared *gur* at a small cost. But this has become impossible since the reclamation.
3. The jungle being cleared, the wild hogs have taken shelter in the neighbouring villages to the greatest inconvenience of the villagers.

It is true that the agricultural people have derived some benefit from the reclamation. But as no permanent settlement has been made with them, and as their rent is being increased every three years, they will discover after a few years, when the productive power of the land begins to diminish, that the advantages they have enjoyed have not been real, but imaginary.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Apl. 1st, 1890.]

15. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 1st April, says that the road from Paratal to Chakdighi, in the district of Burdwan, has fallen into a state of disrepair and become overgrown with jungle. A tiger has taken shelter near the road, which is no longer used. The authorities should kill the beast, cut down the jungle, and repair the road.

BANGABASI,
Apl. 5th, 1890.

16. The *Bangabasi*, of the 5th April, says that the village roads in Khanakul-Krishnagore, in the Hooghly district, are in a bad condition and become impassable in the rainy season. Although collecting the road cess at its maximum rate, the Local Board pays no attention to these roads.

(h)—*General.*

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Apl. 1st, 1890.

17. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 1st April, says that the Lieutenant-Governor's orders in connection with the Durbhunga temple case have given general satisfaction. Mr. Beadon, however, should have been more heavily punished. Mere transfer will not have a sufficiently deterring effect in his case.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Apl. 3rd 1890.

The Budget.

18. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 3rd April, makes the following observations on the budget:—

1. The treatment of the Home charges in the budget is not very satisfactory. The Finance Minister should have entered more fully into the subject of these charges, and treated it in a separate memorandum.
2. The writer does not approve of the Finance Minister's statement that the application of the proceeds of the Famine Fund to the reduction of the public debt and to the construction of public works like railways, &c., will indirectly check famine or prevent its becoming disastrous. If the expenditure of the proceeds of the Famine Fund for the two purposes mentioned above can be regarded as being in any way likely to check famine, why cannot its expenditure for any other purpose be regarded as being likely to be attended with the same result? Besides the proceeds of the Famine Fund, which will now be spent in railway extension, there have been set apart in the budget 6 or 7 crores of rupees for the same purpose. And so the people of India have been saddled with a very large expenditure in order that the trade routes of English merchants in this country, which are already wide and numerous, may be rendered wider and more numerous still.
3. The income-tax ought to have been abolished. In England men whose annual income is smaller than Rs. 1,500 are

exempted from the operation of the tax, but here even those men have to pay the tax whose annual income is only Rs. 500.

4. Bengal furnishes 21 crores, that is, one-fourth of the entire revenue of the Indian Empire, and yet both the Viceroy and the Finance Minister did not feel the least hesitation in saying that it is the most lightly taxed of all the Indian provinces! And the men who say this are of course very big men, for one of them is the Viceroy and the other the Finance Minister.

19. The *Pratikár*, of the 4th April, says that although it was suspected from the very beginning that the

Government and the Durbhunga temple affair.

Durbhunga temple affair would end in nothing, yet the fact of Sir Stuart Bayley being at the head of the administration had led people to entertain the hope that full justice would be done by His Honour. But their hope is frustrated. Mr. Beadon's transfer cannot be regarded in the light of a punishment. He had made Durbhunga a little too hot for himself, and he was probably himself desiring a transfer. The people are gradually losing confidence in the Government, and they are still unable to believe that the decision already arrived at by Government in this affair is final.

PRATIKAR,
Apl. 4th, 1890.

The budget.

20. The *Surabhi-o-Patáká*, of the 4th April, has the following on the budget:—

SURABHI-O-PATAKA,
Apl. 4th, 1890.

The surplus no doubt bespeaks a change for the better in the financial condition of the country. But the people nevertheless should build no expectation upon it. For in the first place the surplus will not lead to the abolition of any tax, and in the second place it may be spent any moment by the Government of India on some project of war or annexation which the prosperous condition of the exchequer may lead it to devise.

Reference is then made to the Finance Minister's proposal to revive the Famine Fund, and the remark is made that the proposal in question is the outcome of the agitation made in Parliament by Messrs. Bradlaugh and Digby on the subject of the misappropriation of the fund.

As a portion of the proceeds of the fund will be henceforward spent in constructing khals and railways, the fund should be called by some other name than the Famine Fund.

Two secrets in connection with the budget have been out, and has Government taken any steps to get the offenders punished under the provisions of the Official Secrets Act? Sir David Barbour's statement that no harm has been done by the disclosure of the secrets, and that it is impossible to find out the offenders, shows that Government has no mind to move in the matter.

21. The *Bangabási*, of the 5th April, has the following on the discussion of the budget in the Viceregal Council:—

BANGABASI,
Apl. 5th, 1890.

The discussion of the budget in the Viceregal Council.

The budget shows a surplus of nearly three crores of rupees over the expenditure for the ensuing year. And it was expected in several quarters that this surplus would lead to some remission of taxation. But all expectations of this kind have been disappointed, for the Viceroy has said that no remission of taxation can be now thought of. Nor will the Provincial Governments have refunded to them the moneys they paid last year into the Imperial Exchequer. Sir Stuart Bayley at least was very sanguine that the Supreme Government would, with the surplus in the budget, see its way to repaying to Bengal at least the sum which it took last year. And he too has been disappointed.

Mr. Nulkar of Bombay was very bold and outspoken. And it would have been a matter for congratulation if Raja Durga Charan Laha of Bengal

had acquitted himself in the same way. Not that the Raja would have been able to effect anything by being bold and outspoken, but the people of Bengal would have been glad to find him doing his duty fearlessly and well. The Viceroy and the ordinary Members of his Council could not, by any amount of reasoning, be induced to give up their points. Moulvie Ameer Hossein urged with great force that the minimum of taxable income should be raised from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000 per annum, but to no effect. The Hon'ble Mr. Nulkar said that the Secretary of State had acted wrongly in not accepting the recommendation of the Civil Service Commission for recruiting the Civil Service from the natives of the country, instead of entertaining the services of Europeans on high salaries, and at very high rates of pension. But the Anglo-Indian members of the Council were all on fire at this outspokenness of Mr. Nulkar's, and Mr. Hutchins called him an irrelevant talker. Mr. Nulkar is to be congratulated that he was not turned out of the Council chamber for speaking in this way. And it was certainly an act of presumption on his part to meddle in questions relating to the salaries and pensions of the Anglo-Indian officials.

The Hon'ble Mr. Syed Ameer Hossein was silenced on the question of the income-tax by the strange argument of the Financial Member, as strangely supported by the Viceroy, that a man with an income of Rs. 500 in India was better off than a man with an income of Rs. 1,500 in England.

It is foolish to expect that the income-tax will be ever abolished. The Famine Fund will be used by Government partly as a sinking fund, and partly in the extension of railways; and yet the public are given to understand that this fund will be left intact. The discussion of the budget has never produced any good result, nor will it ever produce any.

SANJIVANI,
Apl. 5th, 1890.

22. The *Sanjivani*, of the 5th April, sees no reason why Sir David

The disclosure of the two items in the last Financial Statement.

Barbour should be at a loss to make out how the two items in the Financial Statement about borrowing money and increasing the duty on imported liquor leaked out before its publication. Of course, none but high officials of Government could have access to the statement before its publication, and Government should be easily able to find out the offender, if it is only inclined to do so. As regards the item of increased duty on imported liquors, the Lahore paper should be able to supply Government with the necessary information, and as regards the other item Government should not, when much time has not yet elapsed, have any difficulty in tracing the offender. But the fact is that the Official Secrets Act has been enacted not for the safe preservation of official secrets, but simply for harassing the native editors when Government finds it in its power to harass them.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

BHARAT MITRA,
Apl. 3rd, 1890.

23. The *Bhārat Mitra*, of the 3rd April, regrets that Lord Cross should, out of pure ill-feeling, stand in the way of India's advancement. The passing of the Indian Councils Bill in the form in which Mr. Bradlaugh proposed to introduce it in Parliament would not have injured the Secretary of State in person in any way, and yet he has introduced into Parliament a Bill of his own in which no new privileges are proposed to be conferred on the people of India. This hostile attitude of Lord Cross's towards the people of India will be injurious both to the rulers and the ruled.

Lord Cross's Indian Councils Bill.

SURABHI-O-PATAKA,
Apl. 4th, 1890.

24. The *Surabhi-o-Patakā*, of the 4th April, says that Sir Stuart Bayley has done extremely well by refusing to accede to Nawab Abdul Lutif's proposal for making the registration of Mahomedan marriages.

Compulsory registration of Mahomedan marriages.

riages compulsory, until the opinion of all classes of Mahomedans on the subject has been received.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

25. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 1st April, says that in appointing a European teacher for the young Scindia, Government has acted against the expressed desire of his father, the late Maharaja Scindia. In his reply to Mr. Bradlaugh's question on the subject in the House of Commons, Sir James Fergusson has said that the appointment in question has been made with the approval of the Gwalior Council of Regency. But this approval of the Council means nothing; for in giving their opinion in the matter, the members of the Council did not exercise their independent judgment, but simply allowed themselves to be moved in the direction which official opinion has taken. The late Scindia was most anxious that his son might not imbibe European habits and customs, and that will precisely be the result if a European is entrusted with the education of the young prince. Government should, therefore, have given effect to the wishes of the late Scindia in the matter of his son's education.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Apl. 1st, 1890.

A European teacher for the young Scindia.

26. The *Surabhi-o-Pataká*, of the 4th April, has learnt that the duties of the Resident at Cashmere have increased so much of late that he cannot do without the services of an assistant. Now, considering that Cashmere is governed by a Council, and that the Resident is simply required to advise and guide that Council, it is not easy to account for the increase of work of which the Resident complains. But some people think that the Resident requires the services of an assistant simply because he cannot with his own hands, which are only two in number, properly carry on the work of spoliation that is going on in Cashmere under the new régime.

SURABHI-O-PATAKA,
Apl. 4th, 1890.

An Assistant to the Cashmere Resident.

27. The *Aryavartá*, of the 5th April, takes the Government to task for not having kept its promises in regard to the education of the young Maharaja Scindia.

ARYAVARTA,
Apl. 5th, 1890.

The young Maharaja Scindia.

28. The *Sanjivani*, of the 5th April, says that the sardars of Rohilkhund have not yet obtained compensation for the lands taken from them by Government for the Indian Midland Railway. Their representation to the Supreme Government has borne no fruit, for the case has been sent back to Mr. Henvey, the oppressor himself, for investigation and final decision. This means that the Residents and Governor-General's Agents in the native States are intended by Government to be the real sovereigns and arbiters of those States. It is owing to Mr. Henvey that the Dewan of the Barwani State is able to ill-use his Raja. Mr. Henvey is, in fact, sole lord in Central India, or he could not have issued rules prohibiting meetings within the Residency without the permission of the Governor-General's Agent, &c. Nothing could be more despotic than the framing of such rules. Does not Government consider it its duty to check such despotism?

SANJIVANI,
Apl. 5th, 1890.

Mr. Henvey in Central India.

29. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 9th April, has the following on Government's Gwalior policy:— Judged by the Hindu idea of morality, Government ought to have kept inviolate the promises made by Lord Dufferin to the late Maharaja Scindia when the latter was on his death bed. But fulfilling those promises would not have been in accordance with English politics, which demand that all the independent native States in India should be brought under British sovereignty. And so the English rulers of this country, with whom policy has priority over morality, found it necessary to break their

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Apl. 9th, 1890.

Government and the Gwalior State.

promises to the late Maharaja Scindia, as they will often find it necessary to do for the sake of policy. After this Gwalior case, the Indian public will not wonder if Government breaks its word about Cashmere.

One of the late Maharaja Scindia's requests to the Government of India was that his son and heir should be brought up after his death according to the Hindu method. And he had the promise of Lord Dufferin himself that the British Government would not interfere in his son's education. The British Government was no doubt generous enough to act according to the late Maharaja's wishes for three years, and the young Maharaja was left during those three years in the hands of native tutors. And it is not very difficult to understand why it did so. Leaving an infant Maharaja in the hands of native tutors does not affect English policy in India. But it goes against that policy to continue that arrangement when the Maharaja is no longer an infant, and so a man called Johnstone was after three years placed in charge of the young Scindia's education. This is certainly the way to keep one's promise, and English politics sanctions the method. Sir John Gorst has said in reply to a question by Mr. Bradlaugh that the Indian Government did not any longer consider it advisable to leave the young Maharaja's education in the hands of native tutors, but Government will not interfere with the young Maharaja's religion or with his customs. This reply silenced Mr. Bradlaugh, and it is replies of this kind that are given in Parliament for the purpose of silencing all who put Indian questions. When Mr. Bradlaugh asked the Under-Secretary of State to lay the papers relating to this Gwalior affair on the table of the House, he was told that that would be prejudicial to public business. And the Under-Secretary of State refused to produce the Cashmere and Gilgit papers too on the same plea. The authorities can, no doubt, do or say anything in the name of public business. They can, if they like, drown the whole Indian population in the Indian Ocean in the name of public business.

Government has, for the sake of policy, violated its promise not only in regard to Gwalior, but in regard to almost every native State. Acting under the dictates of policy, it has brought all those States under its subjection, while preserving their independence only in name, and it has trained the heirs of all those States in the English style, as the one only way of making their future rulers accept with satisfaction their condition of servility to the British Crown. This has been done in Mysore, in Baroda, in Dholepur, in Porebunder, and in Cooch Behar. And why should it not be done in Gwalior?

No individual officer—neither the Viceroy, nor the Viceroy's Political Agent—can be blamed for this. It is English policy that is the root of all the mischief. Change that policy and the mischief it causes will disappear. But it will be impossible to change that policy, and the speeches of the Bradlaughs in Parliament will fail to do India the smallest good in this respect.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

SANJIVANI,
Apl. 5th, 1890.

30. The *Sanjivani*, of the 5th April, has learnt that famine is raging fiercely within the Ganjung sub-division in Cachar. That the matter is not reported in the

Famine in Ganjung in Cachar.

newspaper is because the people of the place are unable to read and write, and the few educated Bengalis in Government service there are afraid of the Official Secrets Act being put in operation against them in the event of their writing about the distress in the papers. Government, however, is aware of the distress, and has held enquiries, but it has taken no further steps, although the people are dying in multitudes. The Assam Government should take prompt measures to put down the distress.

31. The same paper says that the people of the villages Kharnarpara, Srikol, Tulipara, Dairpok, and Daibeela, in the Magura sub-division of the Jessore district, are suffering from scarcity owing to the churs in the *beel* Jogin Bagni having become uncultivable from drought. They represented their distressed condition to the First Munsif of Magura, who visited the places during his tour, and received a promise from him that he would represent the matter to the Deputy Magistrate of Magura. They crave pecuniary help from their benevolent countrymen, and ask for tuccavi from Government.

SANJIVANI,
Apl. 5th, 1890.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

32. A correspondent writes to the *Cháruvartá*, of the 31st March, to the effect that cholera is raging violently in Arara Kumed in the Tangail sub-division of the Mymensingh district, and that hundreds of people are dying of that disease for want of medical aid. Government should lose no time in sending a qualified doctor to the place. The people of the village have submitted a petition to this effect to the District Magistrate, and it is hoped that he will take it into his favourable consideration.

CHARUVARTA,
Mar. 31st, 1890.

33. The *Sahachar*, of the 2nd April, refers to the departure of Prince Albert Victor from India, and hopes that the Prince will, on his arrival in England, make the Queen-Empress acquainted with the wants and wishes of the people of this country.

SAHACHAR,
Apl. 2nd, 1890.

34. The *Sulabh Samáchar-o-Kushdaha*, of the 4th April, regrets that even Her Excellency Lady Lansdowne thought it fit to make a distinction between natives and Europeans and Eurasians in the recent garden party given by Her Excellency to the children of the European schools in Calcutta. The writer is sorry to find that Her Excellency's affection is restricted to European and Eurasian children. It would have spoken highly for Her Excellency's heart if she had invited even three hundred native children to her garden party.

SULABH SAMACHAR-O-
KUSHDAHA,
Apl. 4th, 1890.

35. The *Sanjivani*, of the 5th April, says that cholera of a virulent type is raging on the churs in the river Jumna in the western part of the Tangail sub-division of the Mymensingh district, and in the neighbouring villages. The people do not often get medical advice for want of means. The attention of the local zemindars and of the Government is invited to the matter.

SANJIVANI
Apl. 5th, 1890.

36. The same paper has the following on the bestowal of titles by Government:—

SANJIVANI.

Many of those who are now in the enjoyment of such titles as Raja, Maharaja, Rai Bahadur, Raja Bahadur, and so on, would have had to go without them if Government had made it a point to confer these titles only on really good men, and if it had with this view instituted an enquiry into the character of their recipients before conferring them. It would not, indeed, be right for Government to appoint officers to pry into people's private character. Nor is it necessary for Government to do so. All that Government ought to do is not to honour, as it often does, persons who are notorious for immorality in private life. Titles conferred on characterless men have no value in the eyes of the public.

The Raja of Naldanga had the title of Raja conferred upon him in recognition of his services to the country as a social reformer, the Raja having brought about through his own influence some widow re-marriages. It is not difficult for a man of the Raja's position to get hold of some

widows and some destitute men and to get them married. And it now appears that he brought about these marriages not from any praiseworthy motive, but simply with the view of posing as a reformer, and getting Government to honour him as such. If there is any one in this country who deserves to be honoured for services done to the cause of social reform, it is Pundit Iswara Chandra Vidyasagar in Bengal and Madhab Das Raghunath Das in Bombay. That Government has seen fit to decorate the Raja of Naldanga with his title, leaving unrecognized the services of those two eminent men, means that it is not inclined to set any value upon really good and unostentatious work. If it had been a little more judicious in conferring honours, it would have been the means of encouraging men to do real good work. But unhappily it is led away chiefly by outward appearances, and that is why it showers favours on men whose only business is to flatter high Government officials, and thus puts a premium on obsequiousness and other low qualities.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Apl. 7th, 1890.

37. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 7th April, approves of the proposal made by Captain Hearsey on behalf of the ryots of Sujamutha, in the district of Midnapore, that Government ought to appoint a Commission, with one or two respectable Bengal zemindars on it, to look after the proceedings of Mr. Reily and his colleague Lala Banbehari Kapur.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
Apl. 7th, 1890.

38. The *Samvad Prabhakar*, of the 7th April, says that India has not been fortunate enough to see her Empress. She has had the honour of being visited by three of Her Majesty's sons and by one of her grandsons. The people of India have heard her name, and of her kind and amiable disposition, and of her exalted character, and that is all. They are grieved at heart that they have not had the good fortune to see her in person.

Nor is it often given to them to see her representative in this country. They only know that the country is governed by Her Majesty's representative. But that representative they do not see, although they consider it an act of religious merit to see the sovereign's representative. The Viceroy lives for ten months in the year in the Simla hills, and it is all the same for the people of India whether he lives in Simla or in England. During the reigns of the old Hindu and Mahomedan kings people enjoyed the privilege of making their grievances known to their sovereigns in person, and this they deemed great good fortune, and they were all the more loyal and contented. But the good old practice has been discontinued under British rule. The representative of Her Majesty makes a sojourn of only two months in his capital, and even during that short residence among them the people as a body do not see him, and are not allowed to approach him with their grievances. And so they feel unhappy and discontented.

The Indians are a remarkably simple and tender-hearted people. They will quietly suffer any amount of oppression at the hands of their rulers, if they are only allowed to see their sovereign from time to time, and if they have the good fortune to hear words of consolation from his own mouth. They will feel attached to their sovereign all the more closely and lovingly if their sovereign lets herself be seen by them and talks with them in person from time to time. But Englishmen have failed to gauge the Indian mind.

The visits of the members of the royal family have clearly shown how strong is the desire of the people of this country to see their sovereign. And it need hardly be stated that a visit to India by Her Majesty in person will be productive of more good than can be achieved by a thousand benevolent acts and enactments of the Government.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
Apl. 8th, 1890.

39. The *Samvad Prabhakar*, of the 8th April, says that the Mahomedans, who are sending up a petition to Parliament at the instigation of Syed

The Mahomedans and the elective franchise.

Ahmed, opposing the introduction of the elective principle into the Indian Legislative Councils, will come to see their error in time. When men of experience like Lords Northbrook, Ripon, and Dufferin, have not hesitated to declare that the time has come when this principle can be safely introduced into the Councils of India, it will surely be to the detriment of their own interests if these Mahomedans oppose the movement which has been set on foot for securing the elective franchise for this country.

40. *The Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 10th April, says that the Lieutenant-Governor is probably convinced by the depositions which have been given by the ryots of Jhenida that Mr. Selby is committing the grossest oppression upon them, is carrying matters with a high hand with the object of striking terror into their hearts, is giving them false dakhilas, is, in short, conducting himself exactly like a Czar's Czar. Writing about this gentleman, Mr. Monro said in 1883 that if he did not mend his ways he would some day find himself in extreme danger. It is now 1890, and instead of mending his ways Mr. Selby is outdoing himself. And this time he has found a supporter in Mr. Luson and is perpetrating the grossest oppressions. How long will Sir Steuart Bayley remain indifferent in this matter? Will not Mr. Smith, like Mr. Monro, take steps to punish the oppressive planter?

DAINIK-O SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Apl. 10th, 1890.

URIYA PAPERS.

41. *The Utkaldipika*, of the 22nd March, in reviewing the Annual Report on the Orissa Canals for 1888-89, remarks that no substantial good has resulted from canal irrigation. The people seem not to appreciate its benefits. There has been a reduction of the irrigated area compared with those of former years.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Mar. 22nd, 1890.

42. *The Dipaka*, of the 22nd March, is opposed to the extension of the Bengal Tenancy Act to Orissa. The writer observes that it is unnecessary to extend the Act to Orissa before a permanent settlement of the province has been made. Government may, with a view to facilitate the work of the next settlement, extend Part X of the Act to Orissa, but the extension of the whole Act to that province must be objected to.

DIPAKA,
Mar. 22nd, 1890.

43. *The Samvadvaika*, of the 20th March, regrets to notice that cholera has made its appearance in some parts of the district of Balasore. Small-pox is also prevailing in Mayurbhunj and Nilgiri States.

SAMVADVAHIKA,
MAR. 20th, 1890.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 12th April 1890.

